

# GOVERNMENT

## UPDATE

### Federal agencies question Surflan

Officials of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health have launched an investigation into the herbicide "oryzalin", which they think may be responsible for heart-related birth defects among children fathered by workers who manufactured the substance.

Oryzalin, approved in 1975, is a liquid herbicide used to control weeds and brush in soybeans and cotton, certain fruits and nuts, and woody ornamental plants. The Elanco Products Div. of Eli Lilly & Co. of Indianapolis, IN, holds the registration for the compound under the brand name "Surflan."

EPA Assistant Administrator Steven D. Jellinek stressed that his office has no record of the herbicide causing health problems among users. The Agency has reviewed studies conducted by Eli Lilly & Co. to support registration of the compound, as required by the Federal pesticide law.

### Sharp drop in nonwhite farm workers

Between 1965-67 and 1975-77, the number of hired farm workers in the US declined 9.3 percent — from just under 3 million to slightly more than 2.7 million, according to agricultural extension specialists at North Carolina State University.

Although the number of white workers actually increased slightly, the number of blacks and others dropped from 822,000 to 440,000. Figures show the average age of farm workers declined, resulting primarily from more workers 18 to 24 years old and less workers 45 years and older.

### Survey identifies urban tree problems

Construction damage, Dutch elm disease, pine bark beetles, scale insects, and oak decline kill more city trees than anything else, according to a survey of 17 southern states. The University of Georgia's Dept. of Entomology polled more than 1,700 practicing urban foresters, university professors, arborists, and others. The survey asked them to identify the most difficult problems in their locations to determine areas where research dollars may best be spent.

level. What do users expect and what degree of damage can a plant withstand? Finally, all options to control must be considered, including cultural controls, natural controls, and breeding site elimination.

### GOLF

### Recertification seminars precede GCSAA show

Seven seminars on subjects ranging from pesticides to photography have been scheduled just before the opening of the 51st International Turfgrass Conference and Show in St. Louis, Feb. 17-22. The seminars will be taught by nationally recognized experts and will be worth points toward certification renewal.

Seminar subjects include: landscape design theory, personnel management, irrigation equipment operation, pesticide use for insect control, turf nutrition, photography, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Each seminar lasts two days and is followed by an optional examination for points.

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America also announced that Toro Chairman David McLaughlin will present the keynote address to start the show off. McLaughlin will speak on the subject, "Are we savers or spenders?"

### TREES

### Christmas tree crops up in North Carolina

Tar Heel Christmas tree farmers are reporting a 40 percent increase in their harvest for this year over the last two years. Farmers have planted enough trees to triple production by 1983. Extension Forestry Specialist William Huxster of North Carolina State University said, "We are now cutting about four percent of the Christmas trees sold in the United States each year. Our goal is 15 percent of the national market."

About 60 percent of the Fraser fir, white pine, Virginia pine, and Eastern red cedar grown in the state is exported. Conservatively estimated, the 1979 crop will bring growers roughly \$10 million.

## PRINCETON "Automatic" Sod Harvester

- One man does it all!
- Cuts, aerates, crosstie stacks, & palletizes
- Up to 27,000 sq. ft. per hour
- Save time, money and manhours
- Remember—one man does it all!

For additional information write or call collect:

**Rodger Osborne,**  
General Manager

**PRINCETON**  
MANUFACTURING COMPANY  
955 W. Walnut Street  
Canal Winchester, Ohio 43110  
(614) 837-9096



Circle 114 on free information card